

8-17-1936

## M.W.A.K. Columbian, Vol. 2, No. 33

Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier Co.

Follow this and additional works at: [http://dc.ewu.edu/mwak\\_columbian](http://dc.ewu.edu/mwak_columbian)

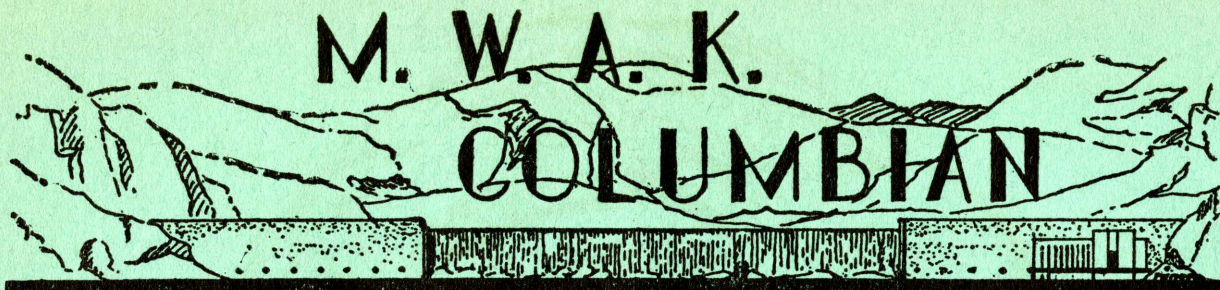
---

### Recommended Citation

Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier Co., "M.W.A.K. Columbian, Vol. 2, No. 33" (1936). *Columbian (Grand Coulee Dam newsletter)*. 186.  
[http://dc.ewu.edu/mwak\\_columbian/186](http://dc.ewu.edu/mwak_columbian/186)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives & Special Collections at EWU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Columbian (Grand Coulee Dam newsletter) by an authorized administrator of EWU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [jotto@ewu.edu](mailto:jotto@ewu.edu).





SAFETY  
DEPARTMENT

MASON-WALSH-ATKINSON-KIER CO.  
BUILDERS OF COULEE DAM

MASON CITY  
WASHINGTON

Vol. 2 No. 33

M. Pete Shrauger--Editor  
Safety Engineer

August 17, 1936

# SHOVE COLUMBIA ASIDE!

Nature, millions of years ago, toyed with the Columbia river. She bent the nation's No. 2 stream to her will of seeking a new course. Because of the unlimited power of the dictator, it is easy to understand how one of the greatest rivers in the world obeyed.

NOW THE MWAK COMPANY HAS TAKEN OVER A SIMILAR TASK. THROUGH CAREFUL ENGINEERING THE COMPANY HAS PLANNED TO HOLD NATURE IN CHECK WHILE HANDLING HER PROTEGE, THE COLUMBIA RIVER, THROUGH CONSTRUCTION OF TWO CROSS-RIVER TIMBER, GRAVEL AND STEEL DAMS, EACH ABOUT 900 FEET IN LENGTH.

Already south of the east cofferdam, a dragline has prepared the scene for the beginning of the shore arm for the upstream cross-river dam. Farther down the river actual construction has begun on cribs for the downstream cross-river cofferdam, the first to be constructed.

First level construction of the downstream cofferdam will shunt the Columbia river around the south end of block 40 through a channel where steel piling is to be removed, over west side concrete, back into the regular river channel and through the north end of the west cofferdam where initial steel piling has been partially removed. This diversion of the river will follow the flooding of the west side. Flooding will not occur before Oct. 15.

Like the upper dam, the downstream dam will begin from the east side but cut upstream to reach section G, the high steel cells of the west cofferdam at the north end of block 40. The upstream dam will cut down to reach the west cofferdam at

the south end of block 40.

A cross section of timber cribs of the downstream cofferdam will show three sections or steps upward. The lower row or series across the river will be 64x85 feet in plan and extend from river bottom to elevation 950; the second will be 16x64-foot cribs to 970 and the third 16x32 feet to 990. The straight side will be on the downstream side for the first dam, on the upstream side for the second. Respective final elevations will be 990 and 1000; the west cofferdam is 995 and the high cells behind it are 1000. General crib dimensions are 900x96x90 feet high.

LOOKING UPSTREAM, FIRST PLACEMENT OF SEVEN KEY CRIBS IN THE RIVER WILL SHOW 32-FOOT WIDE CHANNELS BUILT IN THE CRIBS. LATER STOP-LOGS WILL BLOT OUT THE OPENINGS. STOP-LOGS WILL NOT BE NEEDED IN THE UPPER CRIBS BECAUSE BY THE TIME THEY ARE TO BE SET THE DOWNSTREAM COFFER WILL BE CLOSED AND THE RIVER DIVERTED. THE MIDDLE SERIES OF CRIBS WILL BE SPACED INTERMITTENTLY, AS WILL THE SMALLER TOP SERIES.

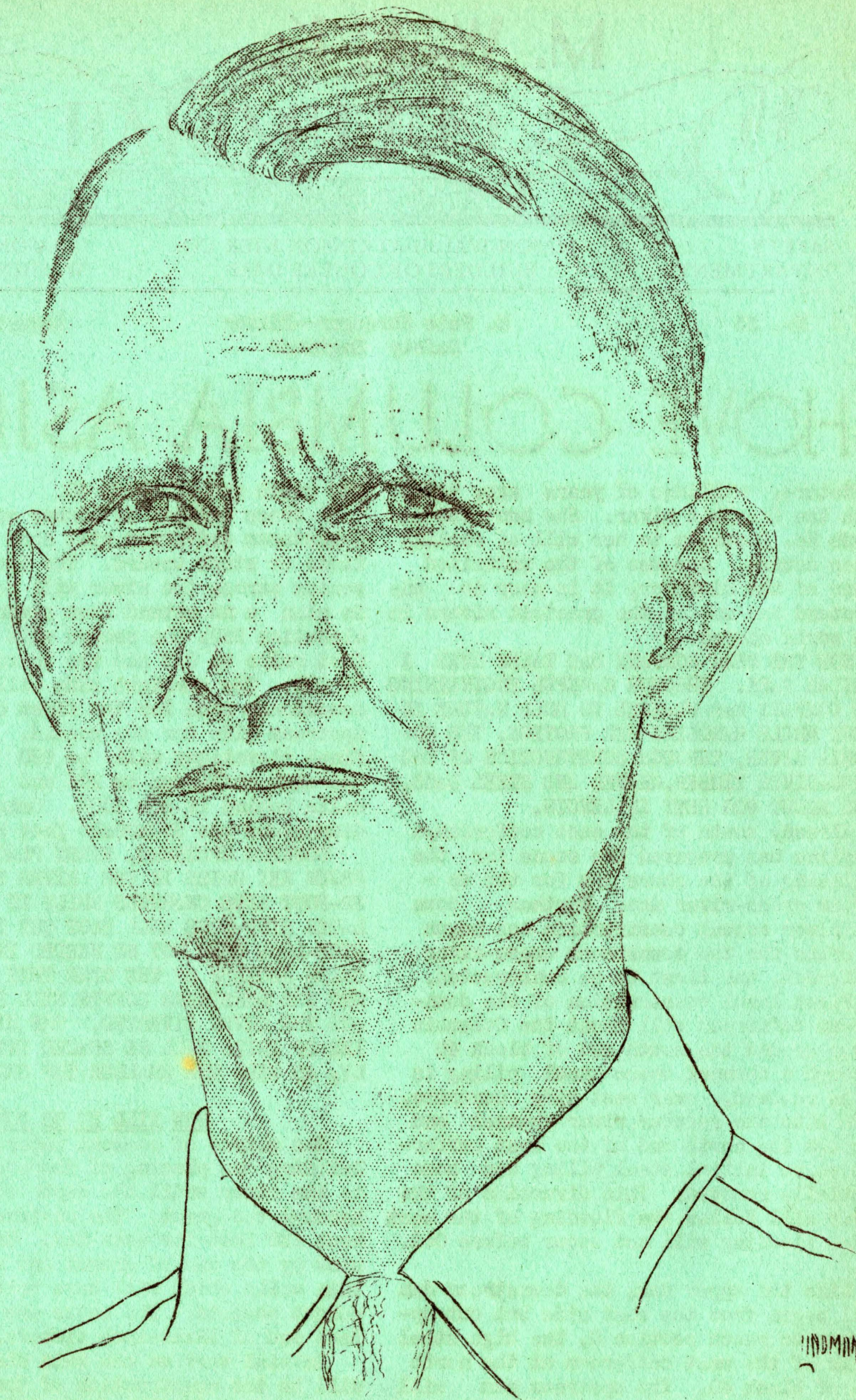
## HOW WILL IT BE DONE?

One source of present interest is the building and placing of shore arms out into the river until the depth of the water becomes too great. The distance may be about 150 feet for each dam. Cribs will sink by the use of gravel and rock in certain cells which will have bottoms to form weight pockets. The cells are to be 8x10 feet and of 12x12-inch timbers.

Initial work on the main channel cribs will be the construction of their lower

(Continued on Page 5)





1106MM



## B. A. HALL

B. A. Hall, chief inspector for the Columbia Basin project of the bureau of reclamation, was first met up with on a rail and survey party on the Denver & Rio Grande railroad in 1906. He was next found on the construction of canals and concrete work on the Mindoka project in southern Idaho from 1908 to 1913 when he became field party chief.

Mr. Hall left Idaho to spend two years at Valparaiso university in Indiana, after which he returned to Mindoka in charge of hydrometric work. The War brought a change. In 1917 Bert Hall became master engineer for the army. Such a position was the lot of but few, for only one master engineer was attached to a division of troops. Mr. Hall remained in this country throughout the War but his duties carried him from camp to camp. He was discharged in 1919.

He then took charge of topographical and retracement work on the important American Falls project and in 1921 became chief of design and field work on the American Falls dam. From 1924 to 1927 he took charge of all inspection and field engineering on the dam. At the conclusion of his work there he directed the construction of the upper ten miles of railroad at Owyhee dam and also its diversion tunnel No. 1. From 1928 to 1932 he was in charge of field engineering and design at Owyhee, when he came to Boulder dam as chief inspector and then to the Grand Coulee dam in 1935 in the same capacity.

The previous record testifies to ability of Mr. Hall but it hardly does him justice. Critical comment here places him high on a ladder as knowing his work unusually well, especially is this true of his knowledge of foundation grouting and the placement of concrete.





"My dear man," said the attorney to the banker, "there are hundreds of ways of making money, but only one that's honest."

"What's that?" asked the banker.

"Ah," smiled the other, "I thought you wouldn't know."

-oOo-

"Nature," explained Jack Mims, "always tries to make compensations. For instance,

if one eye is lost, the sight of the other becomes stronger, and if a person grows deaf in one ear the hearing of the other becomes more acute.

"Quite right," agreed Graves. "I've noticed that when a man has one leg that is shorter, the other is usually longer."

-oOo-

SOME MEN WITH MONEY ARE LIKE DOGS WITH FLEAS THEY SIMPLY CAN'T REST WHILE THEY HAVE ANY.

-oOo-

"How's your wife coming along with her driving?"

"Oh, she took a turn for the worse last week."

-oOo-

"I can rent horses from the riding academy here, so I don't want to buy that horse. Besides he looks as if he had a mean disposition."

"Don't mind that. He just got that way from running in sulky races."

-oOo-

DON'T LEAVE SAFETY ON THE JOB--  
KEEP IT WITH YOU ALWAYS

-oOo-

"Our boss talks to himself. Does yours?"

"Yes, but he doesn't realize it-- he thinks we're listening."

-oOo-

"What became of W. Olsen's iron will he used to brag about?"

"His wife's tears rusted it."

"Have you seen my new play about the couple who were always quarreling?"

"No," replied the neighbor, "but I heard you and your wife rehearsing it."

-oOo-

"See here," writes a man from Glasgow, "if you print any more jokes about Scotchmen as you did last month, I'll stop borrowing your bulletin."

-oOo-

"CLOTHES OFTEN FAKE THE MAN," WROTE THE NEW TYPIST.

-oOo-

Jimmy asked his father whether or not a bigamist was a man who had one wife too many.

"Not necessarily," replied the father, "A man can have one wife too many and still not be a bigamist."

-oOo-

A general and a colonel were walking down the street. They met many privates and each time the colonel would salute he would mutter: "The same to you."

The general's curiosity got the better of him and he asked: "Why do you always say that?"

The colonel said: "I was once a private and I know what they are thinking."

-oOo-

Not all around here say it but--

"This is real pre-war stuff!"

"You don't mean to say there is going to be another war?"

-oOo-

WEAR LEATHER GLOVES WHEN NECESSARY--  
NAILS, SPLINTERS AND WIRES ARE BAD ACTORS

-oOo-

Boy: "I would do anything for you."

She: "Would you come to my rescue in distress?"

He: "Absolutely! It wouldn't make any difference what you were wearing."





### CROSS-RIVER COFFERDAMS (Continued from Page 1)

portions or bases in the south forebay area on the west side. This is the scene for later diversion. Here cribs will be built up to a height of about 20 feet. At the time of flooding they will float and be moved by boat to the east side and to a fitting-up dock where they will be built up to reach level 950 (downstream trestle height).

Meanwhile the shore arms of the cofferdams will have proceeded out into the river. In the last crib of the arm of the upstream dam a deadman anchor will have been placed and covered with from 60 to 70 feet of gravel and rock fill. From the anchor a 3-inch cable, the largest ever used here, will lead to a barge on which will be mounted one 4-drum and one 5-drum hoist. Two additional hoists will be located on the east bank and one on the west. The job of the barge is to move the cribs out into the river to the exact pre-determined place and hold it in position while it is sunk. Such a program is not easy because the river can still have a way of speaking.

THE SINKING IS MADE POSSIBLE BY DUMPING SAND AND GRAVEL INTO CERTAIN CELLS OR WEIGHT POCKETS OF A CRIB, THE WEIGHT POCKETS WILL BE LOCATED TO MAINTAIN THE BALANCE OF THE CRIB.

A revolving crane will lay its own pathway from crib to crib and across the 32-foot water channels. Trucks will bring sand and gravel from the pit south of the east concrete area, out onto the filled cribs and across spanned spaces of water. The crane will fill the pockets while the crib sinks.

The base cribs will be shaped to fit river bottom. Tens of thousands of soundings from a river barge are under way, plottings are made of the river bed, and timbers will be cut to fit the bottom as much as possible. This 6-week planning job shows how much care is taken to insure proper location of cribs.

When the cribs of the downstream cofferdam are in, attention shifts to the 32-foot water channels in the cribs. Across these openings, and at the same time, stop-logs will be placed, built up gradually and held in place by gravel fills. These chan-

nels were first left to supplement the channel through the west cofferdam area and thus prevent excessive water velocities during the sinking of the cribs. With the rise of the logs and the river the channel of the west cofferdam will receive more water.

AT THE SAME TIME AS THIS WORK A CLAM-SHELL WILL BE SCRAPING TWO TO THREE FEET OF ROCKY MATERIAL OFF THE CLAY OF THE RIVER BOTTOM JUST DOWNSTREAM FROM THE CRIES FOR DRIVING OF BUT ONE THIN SHEET OF STEEL PILING. CELLS SUCH AS IN THE WEST COFFERDAM WILL NOT BE USED. PILE DRIVING WILL BEGIN WHEN ALL THE STOP-LOGS ARE IN PLACE AND THE RIVER HAS BEEN DIVERTED.

Piling will be driven down to form 32-foot arcs. The intersection of arcs will be tied to timbers through use of a steel strap on each of the timber and the piling with Y piling dropped down over each. Arcs rather than straight piling, will be used because sheet piling is tighter when pulling on its interlocks. The arcs are large enough to tie in even with the 16-foot alternating cribs and open spaces of the third height of cribbing. The sheet of piling will act as a cut-off wall against the diverted river and explains why the upper sections of cribs need not be a continuous line but only an anchor for piling.

The upstream cofferdam, cutting down ward toward the south end of block 40, will be constructed in quiet water and will be simple work compared with that of its downstream sister. Cribbing there will be in a continuous row across the river and will not have water channels or stop-logs.

The brunt of the Columbia river will be deflected through construction of the cofferdams to parallel the course of a diverted river. That deflection will not take place until after completion of the first height of cribbing across the river.

COMING IN THE FUTURE IS THE JOB OF PUMPING THE WATER FROM BETWEEN THE TWO NEW COFFERDAMS, THE EXCAVATION OF EARTH AND ROCK, AND THE POURING OF CONCRETE--- BUT THAT IS ANOTHER STORY.

-oOo-

THROWING IMPLEMENTS DOWN A CLIFF MAY BE EASIER THAN CARRYING THEM DOWN BUT SUPPOSE SOMEONE'S BELOW

-oOo-



# MASON CITY THEATRE



*Grace Moore*



THE KING STEPS OUT  
Franchot Tone

SUN, MON, TUES.



TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR POCKETBOOK

According to a recent release by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, it is estimated that there are 250,000 occupational accident infection cases annually in the United States. The total annual compensation payments amount to about \$104,227,500. The total loss of time involved is 4,458,333 weeks, the equivalent of 85,737 years!

Such statistics are huge. As huge as they are, they lack the personal interest they might have. But working back from the figures, the average cost per infected injury is \$417 in compensation and 18 weeks in lost time.

In brief, the thing sums up to this: The chances of infection are very great, no matter how small the injury. The cost of infection is great enough, but the more cases of infection the higher the price as a total and the greater the danger per individual.---In other words, NEVER ALLOW ANY OPENINGS FOR INFECTION!

-oOo-

MEDDIE YOU DIDN'T KNOW IT EITHER

They talk about a man's biting a dog as news, but how about mistaking a sewage ditch for the excavation for the Grand Coulee dam?

The other day an attractively-dressed lady from the East who owns a limousine, not an auto, looked for the Grand Coulee dam up on the hill.

"I've looked all over for the dam," she confessed. "Is that it?" she asked, referring to ditch work in the Center.

-oOo-

HOLD ANNUAL CONVENTION

With every room in the Monticello hotel assigned to legiannaires, all members of the American legion are invited to attend their annual state convention at Longview Aug. 20-22.

Delegates from Mason City post 131 are Ed Winters and Chuck Thorington, and Captain C. C. Beery, alternate.

Auxiliary delegates are Mrs. Howard Bates and Mrs. Charles Thorington, with Mrs. A. G. Winters and Mrs. Perry Moore, alternates.

-oOo-

MAY BE TWELVE HEADS AT ONCE

French revolutionists during the Reign of Terror might have hastened their fun if an 120-inch guillotine had been available.

The grout stop bending machine is no guillotine, but it does suggest one. Five air-operated pistons drop 10 inches to force the 120-inch horizontal bar down to bend sheets of metal.

Principal use of the machine is for bending grout stops and cooling pipe brackets. Grout stops are lengths of copper for horizontal and vertical use between concrete blocks to stop grout when forced to seal joints between blocks.

Copper rolls are 12 inches wide and 170 feet long. One right angle bend leaves angle sides of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The bending machine can cut one copper roll into 10-foot lengths and make two bends in each in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  minutes.

The machine was fabricated in the machine shop. Formerly work was done by hand.







**WORK  
SAFELY  
AGAIN  
TODAY**



# CHURCH

CATHOLIC CHURCH--Father A. Farrelly, pastor

On Sunday, Aug. 16, mass will be said in St. Benedict's church, Mason City, at 8 a.m. and in Grand Coulee at 10 a.m. Confessions will be heard Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

COMMUNITY CHURCH--The Rev. W.W. Sloan, pastor

9:45 a.m. Church school

11:00 a.m. Morning worship

7:00 p.m. Vesper service, second of a series of song services, short talks, games and refreshments.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY

SAINTS will conduct Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. in the Mason City high school building.

-oOo-

## JULY SAFETY REPORT

No fatalities and 30 compensable accidents are chalked up on the books for the month of July.

Statistically this is an improvement over last month. However, how much better it would look with statistics still smaller figures.

-oOo-

## FEEDER CROSSES RIVER, TOO

The last feeder on the east side, uncovered by water and with no conveyor to help it work, will have something to do

Last Saturday workmen began freeing it from its earthen enclosure for it to be taken across the river to move out west excavation at the north tip of the cofferdam.

-oOo-

**ONLY ONE WEEK OF REGISTRATION BEFORE PRIMARY ELECTIONS!**

-oOo-

The wage earner's life is considerably better than those in higher economic classes.

-oOo-

# SPORTS

AS THE DEAVERS HEAD SPOKANE-BOUND NEXT Sunday, they are on their last lap in the league title race. Fourth in league standing, they have an opportunity to clash in the playoff of the top four teams for the league title. The local nine exchanged scenes of play with Lewiston last Sunday, following a schedule mixup.

-oOo-

JOHN C. PARKER, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE New York Edison company, was a last week-end visitor in advance of the coming trip of members of the Third World Power conference, to be held in September.

-oOo-

While some water remains available in the east pit, pumps have taken over the job of washing abutment rock and bedrock already exposed by the pumping out of the east side.

-oOo-

HOW CAN SOMEBODY TYPE OUT ALL THE names, Company numbers, dates, rates and other items either on the payroll, checks, receipts and such? Somebody does not.

Such information is punched out on a graphotype machine, which only slightly appears like the cross between a sewing machine and one of the original disc-operated typewriters.

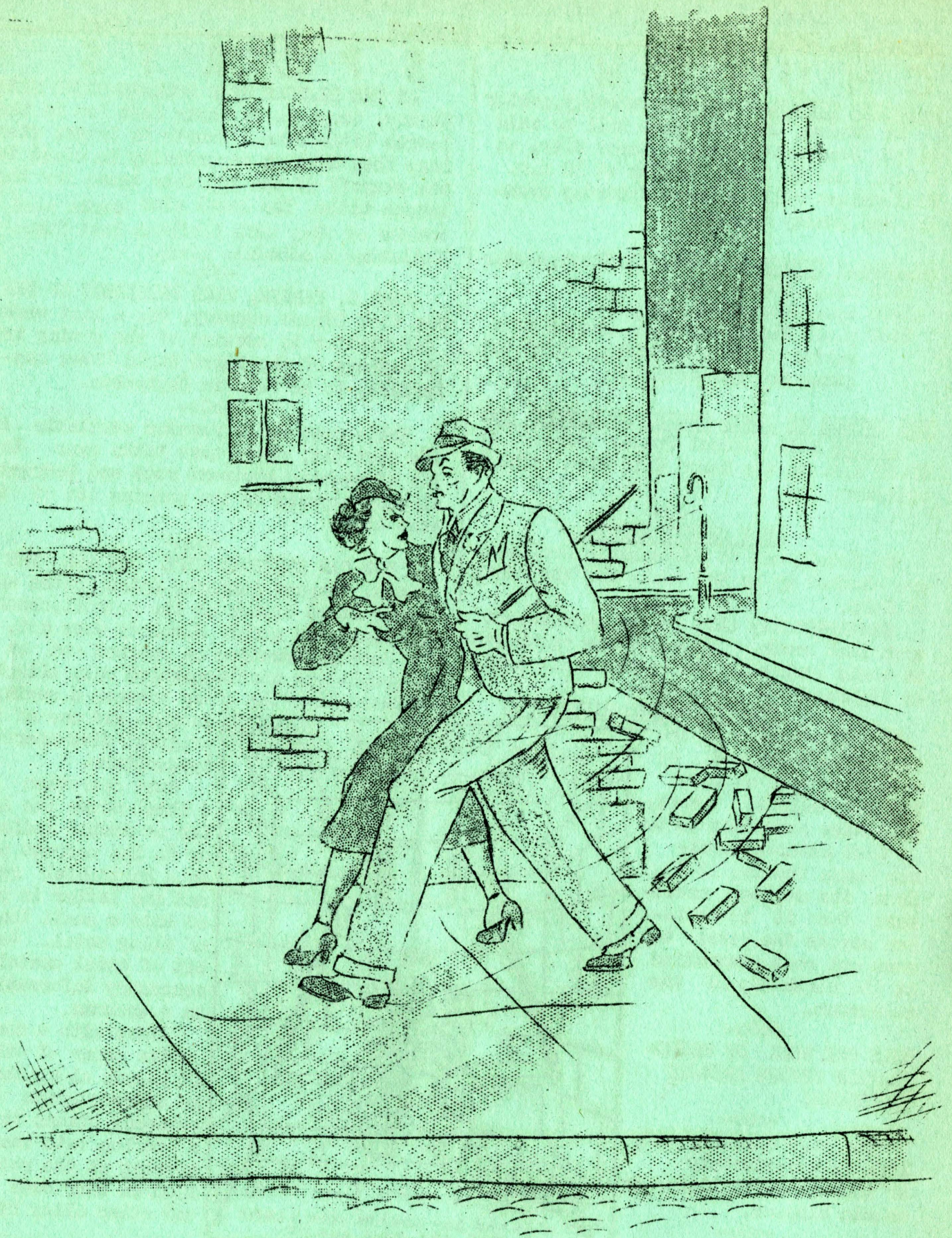
Hand operation of a wheel moves the letter or number indicator to the correct place on a horizontal rule, and the letter is punched into a small length of alloy metal. Each bit of metal contains necessary information on a workman.

Along with a consecutive order of others it passes along through an addressograph machine and stamps through a carbon onto sheets passing at the rate of 1000 an hour over it and other alloy bits.



"MY wife and her cookin' now I cant get the saw out!"

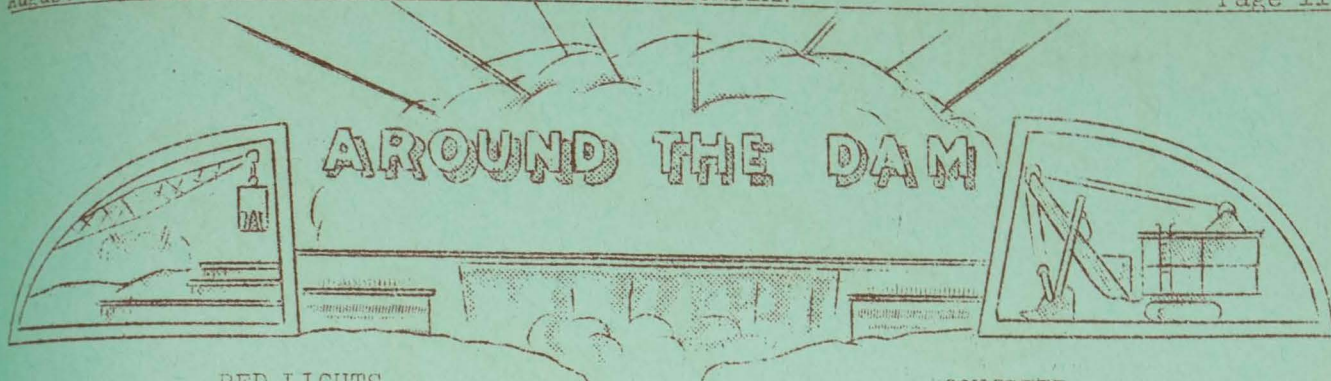




"NEXT TIME WE GO AROUND A CORNER,  
PLEASE TRY AND GIVE ME MORE ROOM!"

*Lincoln*



RED-LIGHTS

LACK OF INFORMATION CONCERNING DRIVING MANOEUVRES OF YOUR CAR HAS MADE IT DANGEROUS TO POLICE AND MWAK AMBULANCES. PLEASE OBSERVE THE LAW REGARDING THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF AMBULANCES.

"AMBULANCE HAS RIGHT OF WAY OVER ALL VEHICLES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE U.S. MAIL." WHEN RED LIGHT IS SEEN OR SIREN HEARD, PULL OVER TO SIDE OF ROAD AND STOP.

-oOo-

CAR PASS

Cars that are allowed into the working areas will be supplied with a card of identification, allowing car and occupants into the working area, all other cars are forbidden that privilege.

-oOo-

COMMUNITY CLUB

Mrs. Guy Smith and Mrs. Major Parker are going to hold a food sale in the near future sponsored by the Community Club, benefits going to be utilized on the balance payment on the school piano and the playfield that is now being built. Watch for date of sale.

-oOo-

GROUTING

Thirty 75 foot deep "C" Type Diamond drill holes have been grouted under pressure up to 400 lbs. They have taken 68,256 sacks of cement ranging from 112 to 12,768 sacks of cement per hole.

-oOo-

NEW EQUIPMENT

Additional equipment is arriving on the job. Recently 2-two yard shovels and a 2,400 B steam drag line are being erected on the south diversion channel for excavation. Also a stiff-leg derrick is being erected on Block 40 crib to build Block 39 crib.

-oOo-

Ray Tribble, staff reporter for this paper is on vacation this week.

-oOo-

WEAR YOUR HARD HAT

CONCRETE

The millionth cubic yard of concrete will be poured into the dam during the afternoon of Friday, August the 14th.

-oOo-

PUMPING out the east side lake was brought to a halt at elevation 848 until the world's largest freezing plant is installed and the slope frozen for structural purposes. Water in the lake is still 50 feet deep.

-oOo-

CRIBS

Crib erection for the upstream and downstream shore arms of the cross river cofferdam has begun. A study of the river bottom is being made from the sounding barge for the purpose of placing the cribs.

-oOo-

THIRTY FOOT GRAVEL FILL was sluiced from Section H of the west cofferdam in seven days and work has started on Section C.

-oOo-

FILL

Dumping rock on the North slope for a railroad waste track fill is under way. It is somewhat similar to the one on the west side.

-oOo-



August 8, to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Harper, Grand Coulee, a son.

August 9, to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Coffman, Delano, a son.

August 11, to Mr. and Mrs. George Johanson, Elmore Heights, a daughter.

-oOo-

FIRST AID CLASSES WILL CONTINUE  
NEXT WEEK.



Quality  
at  
Coulter  
Trading Co

FRIDAY

&

SATURDAY

SWISS STEAK.....19¢ LB

CHUCK ROAST.....12¢ LB

BLADE ROAST.....15¢ LB

CROSS CUT ROAST.....18¢ LB

RUMP ROAST.....18¢ LB

Meat Dept